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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/540.831	06/24/2005	Zeng Gang Liu	1200.734	2257

7590 06/08/2006

Longacre & White
Suite 240
6550 Rock Spring Drive
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EXAMINER

LAM, THANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2834	

DATE MAILED: 06/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicati n No.

10/540,831

Applicant(s)

LIU, ZENG GANG

Examiner

Thanh Lam

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 June 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bessiere (US 3,553,507).

Regarding claim 1, Bessiere discloses an electromagnetic retarder for a vehicle, having at least one inductor, being a stator and adapted to carry at least one electromagnetic winding (4-5, or 31-32), a first rotor (8), being an armature, and a second rotor (9), being an armature, the said first rotor and second rotor being coupled together by means of a central fastening ring (inner races of bearing 19-20, or inner sleeve of 10a,11a, fig.1, or 29, fig. 4, or 43 , fig. 3), each rotor being situated on either side of a plane defined by the stator (3 or 31), and at least one disc (17-18, or 43, or 44,) adapted to connect the first rotor and the second rotor to a transmission shaft (E or F) of the vehicle, the disc is fixed on one of the two rotors in such a way that it is positioned in longitudinal offset relationship, with respect to an axis (14 or 45) of the retarder towards that rotor.

Regarding claim 2, Bessiere discloses the first rotor and the second rotor are fixed to a first sleeve (10a) and to a second sleeve (11a) respectively, the said first

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sleeve and second sleeve being coupled together by the central fastening ring, and the disc is fixed on one of the sleeves by fastening means.

Regarding claim 3, Bessiere discloses the fastening means constitute at least one pierced ear.

Regarding claim 4, Bessiere discloses the retarder has four ears.

Regarding claim 5, Bessiere discloses the ear is pierced in the centre.

Regarding claim 6, Bessiere discloses the disc has an outer periphery remote from an axis of the retarder, and an inner periphery close to the axis of the retarder, and at least one fastening means extends radially from the outer periphery of the said disc.

Regarding claim 7, Bessiere discloses the first rotor and the second rotor are connected to the first sleeve and the second sleeve through interposed arms (15,16), and at least one fastening means is interposed between the arms of one of the rotors.

Regarding claim 8, Bessiere discloses the sleeve on which the disc is arranged to be fixed is provided with at least one projecting element which is adapted to receive corresponding said fastening means.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh Lam whose telephone number is (571) 272-2026. The examiner can normally be reached on tu-th 8-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren E. Schuberg can be reached on (571) 272-2044. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Thanh Lam
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2834
